Deal On For TV Docu Of Ford's 'Assassin' Tome

Hollywood, April 8.

Deal is expected to be completed within a week for purchase of "Portrait of An Assassin," the book President Ford wrote — while still a Congressman in 1965 — with John R. Stiles about the death of President John F. Kennedy.

Negotiations were initiated by Sheldon Davis and Sheldon Brodsky through their Now Productions in association with MGM-TV. Negotiations are already in progress with CBS-TV for the docu drama, which is expected to run from three to four hours. Steve Mills, exec producer of movies-for-tv at CBS, confirmed the negotia-

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Pres. Ford's Book

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tions with the Culver Lot when contacted over the weekend.

Ford, a member of the Warren Commission which investigated the assassination of President Kennedy, wrote the 500-page tome, a seemingly exhaustive study of the commission's findings, with Stiles. It was published by Simon & Schuster.

One condition agreed to in the current negotiations is a stipulation that if a deal is made, the docu will not air before the Presidential election in 1976, since Ford is an announced candidate for reelection.

MGM-TV seeks a three or four-hour docu, and that's one of the matters involved in negotiations.